Enhancing synergies towards climate action and sustainable development on the ground

GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop
Mbabane, Swaziland, 21-24 February, 2017
1. **Highlight key aspects of the “transformation agenda”:** 
   Interlinkages and synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

2. **Present entry-points and opportunities for enhancing synergies at the country level among MEAs and through GEF programming**

3. **Provide some practical examples for strengthening interaction and engagement in 2017 and beyond**

4. **Questions and joint discussion**
The “transformation agenda”

The 2015 outcomes define an “universal agenda ” for the well-being of all societies ➔ the transformation agenda

The Paris Agreement
The 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
The Addis Ababa Action Agenda for Financing for Development
The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

Unprecedented universal action involving all actors at all levels in all regions of the world is crucial
Key aspects of the “transformation agenda”

- **Urgency of action**
  - Unprecedented rates of de-carbonization are required → Need to shift investments into climate-friendly infrastructure as well as nature-based infrastructure (e.g. such as restoring degraded lands)

- **Cooperative action in support to national contributions**
  - Key to transformation is integration of climate action and SDG implementation across governments and sectors
  - Governments to act in full understanding of their unique national circumstances and to ensure that all relevant sectoral ministries work hand in hand

- **Important role of Non-state actors**
  - Important to build on the momentum generated on the lead to Paris and SD Conference → support gathered from progressive cities, territories, regions, states, businesses and investors

- **Regular stocktaking on progress**
  - Transparency mechanisms and global assessments of progress based on aggregation of reporting and on best science available
Inter-linkages between the Paris Agreement and the SDGs

The **deep synergy between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda is manifested through the nationally determined contributions (NDCs)**

- **Direct inter-linkages** for SDGs that affect global GHG emission trends: SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 11 (sustainable cities and communities), 12 (responsible consumption and production), 13 (climate action) 15 (life on land)

- **Indirect inter-linkages**: impacts of climate change on the achievement of SDGs such as SDG 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 3 (good health and wellbeing), 12, 14 (life below water) as well as 15.

- Resilience building closely linked to the pursuit of SDG 1, 2, 5 (gender equality), 8 (decent work and economic growth), and 10 (reduced inequalities)

- Sequestration of carbon from the atmosphere will bring benefits in the context of SDG 14 (life below water) and 15.
Entry-points and opportunities for enhancing synergies at the country level among MEAs and through GEF programming

- Implementation of NDCs
- Multi-focal area projects providing sustainable development co-benefits and leveraging additional (private) funding
- Capacity-building of relevant actors at the country level
- Promotion of facilitated access to funding
- Transparency framework under the UNFCCC
Practical examples for strengthening interaction and engagement in 2017 and beyond

Providing country experiences and actively engaging in UNFCCC policy discussions, e.g.:

- **In-session workshop on long-term finance** (Bonn, May 2017):
  - Articulating and translating needs identified in country-driven processes into projects and programmes;
  - Roles of policies and enabling environments for mitigation and adaptation finance;
  - Facilitating enhanced access to climate finance

- **Forum of the Standing Committee on Finance** (theme, topic, tbd)

- **Launch of the work of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building** (Bonn, May 2017):
  - “Capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs”
Practical examples for strengthening interaction and engagement in 2017 and beyond

Actively engage with the UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre

- Five regional centers in partnership between UNFCCC and regional institutions
- Mission: to catalyze climate action on the ground

- Key benefits
  - Direct support, partnerships and outreach
  - Technical expertise and experience in the regional, national and sub-national context
  - Active network of non-party stakeholder partners
  - Close partnerships with financial institutions to match actions with sources of funding
THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?